



**Fatality #41 - November 1, 2002 (Chargeback)**

**Machinery - FL**

**Phosphate Rock**

**IMC-Agrico - Pierce**

**METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY** - On November 1, 2002, a 54 year-old machinist, with two years mining experience, was seriously injured in a shop at a phosphate mine operation. The victim was using a horizontal band saw to cut a grove in a wooden hammer handle. He was holding the hammer with his right hand vertically under the horizontal saw blade. The saw blade grabbed the handle forcing the victim's right hand into the band saw blade, severing three fingers. He died of complications resulting from the injury on June 17, 2003.



**Best Practices**

- Ensure that personnel are trained in safe work procedures.
- Use tools and equipment compatible with the job being done.
- Secure any part or piece of material before work is performed to prevent accidental movement.

This is the 41<sup>st</sup> fatality reported in calendar year 2002 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. Based on the findings of the medical examiner, this fatality was determined to be chargeable to the mining industry on January 14, 2004. As of this date in 2001, there were 26 fatalities reported in these industries. This is the tenth fatality classified as machinery in 2002. There were two machinery fatalities in the same period in 2001.